# Avoiding a Red Card with Green Claims and Labels

#### ASRC/ELI Summit, June 10, 2013

#### **Panelists**

**Scot Case** - Director, Market Development, UL Environment

Jim Kohm - Associate Director of Enforcement, Bureau of Consumer Protection, Federal Trade Commission

- **David G. Mallen** Deputy Director, National Advertising Division (NAD)
- Sheila A. Millar Partner, Keller and Heckman, LLP
- Julia Oas Corporate Counsel, S.C. Johnson & Son, Inc.

# Claim Substantiation at NAD

- What messages or claims are conveyed to consumers by the advertisement?
- Does the advertiser have "competent and reliable" evidence to substantiate those claims?
  - FTC Green Guides
  - Industry Standards
  - Experts in the Field



A service of the advertising industry and Council of Better Business Bureaus

#### Claims of General Environmental Benefit



Panasonic, #4697 (2007)

"Panasonic Plasmas are Environmentally friendly"

"No Lead. No Mercury...Most LCD TVs have mercury."

# **Seals and Certifications**

# CONDITIONING BATH SOAP SAVON REVITALISANT POUR LE BAIN Made with Fair Trade Certified<sup>™</sup> ingredients: SHEAA BUTTER, COCOAA BUTTER, WHITE TEAA EXT Fabriqué à partir d'ingrédients certifiés équitables selon le label Fair Trade Certified<sup>™</sup> ingredients: BEURRE DE KARITÉ, BEURRE DE CACADO, EURRE DE KARITÉ, BEURRE DE CACADO, Contains 3 Ber Stops Content 3 savons BORTAN DE LEMAR



TransFair USA (Fair Trade Certified Ingredients Seal), Case #5337 (2011)

## **Underwriters Laboratories**



/ PRODUCT CONTAINS A MINIMUM OF 25% RECYCLED CONTENT



PRODUCT CERTIFIED FOR REDUCED ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT. VIEW SPECIFIC ATTRIBUTES EVALUATED: ULCOM/EL UL XXXX



#### **The Mark of Trust**

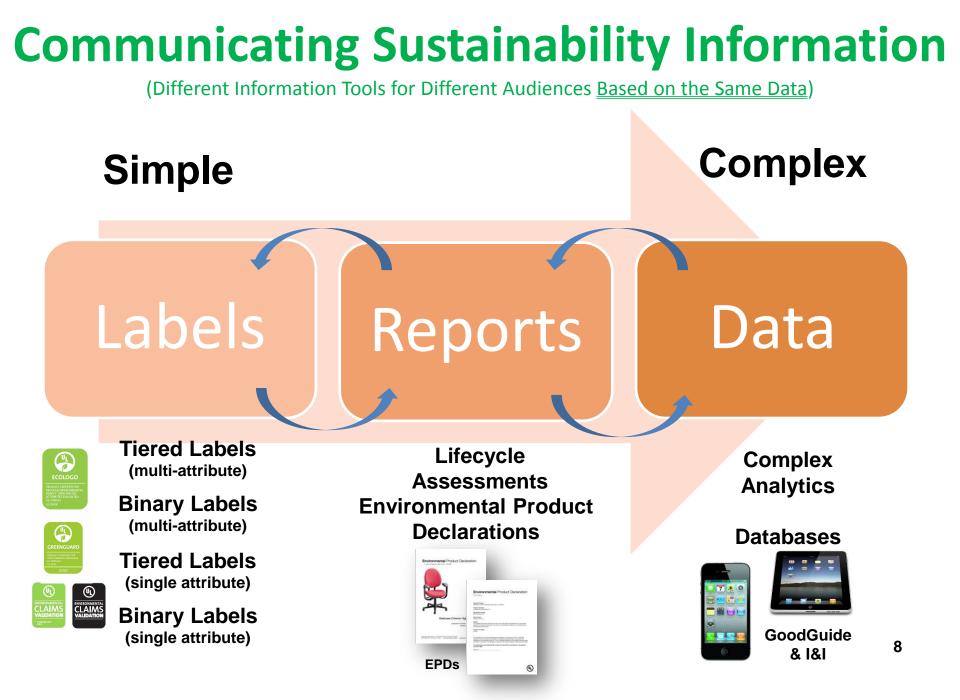


SUSTAINABILITY QUOTIENT



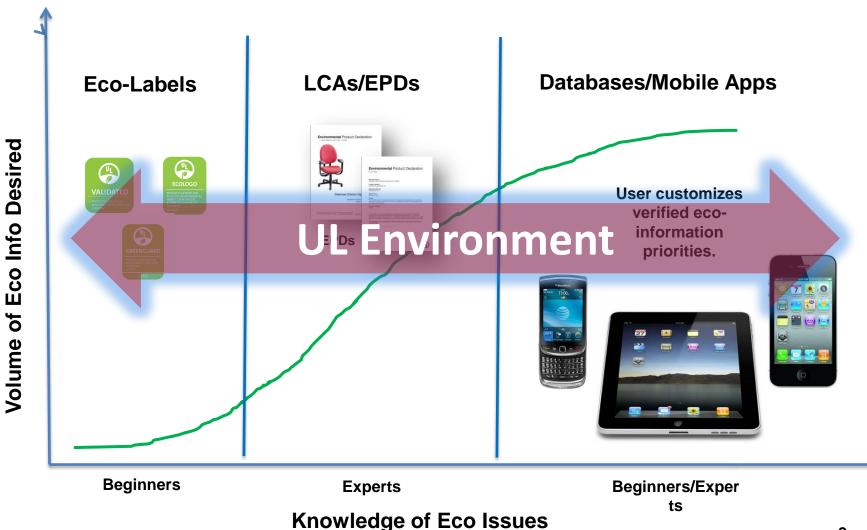
#### BUT....

# Sustainability is about more than just a label.



#### **Communicating Sustainability Information**

(Different Information Tools for Different Audiences **Based on the Same Data**)



# UL Environment: Sustainability Information Services

#### Create & Organize

#### **Create & Organize Information**

- Standards
- Test Protocols
- Databases (GoodGuide, IDES, Innovodex)

Validate

Validate Information Accuracy

- Test & certify products
- Audit processes
- Verify claims

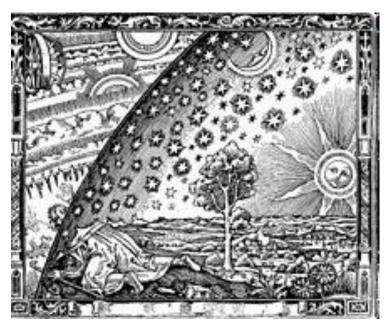
#### Communicate

Make information useful for different audiences

- Labels
- Ratings
- EPDs
- Reports
- Analysis

#### **Consumer Perception v. Science**

- What's the role of science?
- What's the role of H&S regulations?
- What's the role of consumer perception?
- What tests support green claims?

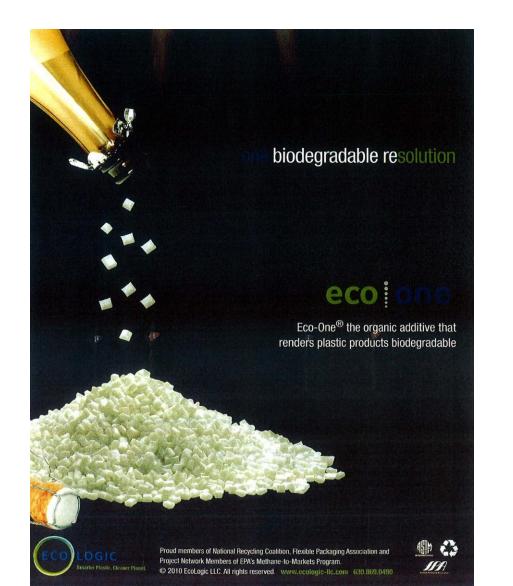




#### What Claims Resonate and Why?



# **B2B** Advertising



"The organic additive that renders plastic products biodegradable"

Ecologic, Case # 5388 (2011)



#### **Standards and Seals**



#### "Free-of" Claims









FREE CHEMIC

ARSENIC

FREE OF

PHTHALATES

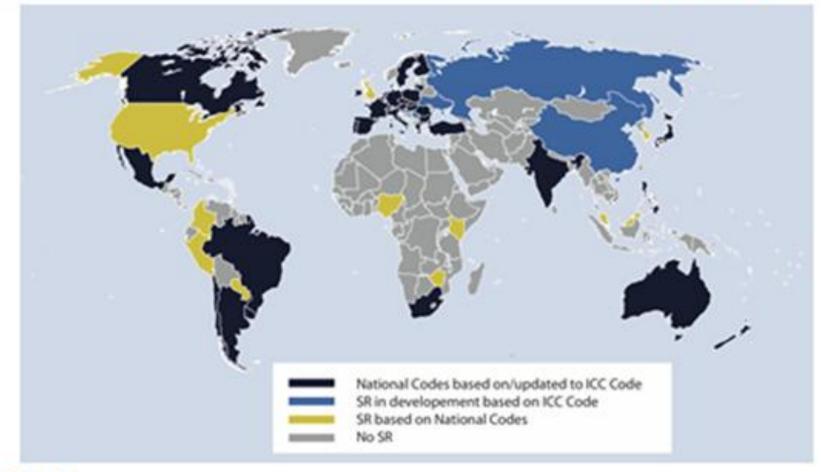
PVC, and BPA





#### BUILDING TRUST ON A SOLID FOUNDATION







#### **Renewable Energy**



"The new ultra light bag that's better for the environment. Made with 25% less plastic\* and made with wind energy"

BETTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT. STILL ZIPLOC\* FRESH."



INTRODUCING ZIPLOC\* EVOLVE. The new ultra light bag that's better for the environment. Made with 25% less plastic\* and made with wind energy! <u>S.C. Johnson & Son, Inc.,</u> (Ziploc Evolve) Case #5225

## What is the Role of H&S Regulations?

- Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act
- EPA, state VOC requirements
- CONEG, TCP
- DOE energy baseline standards and tests
- Proposition 65
- Green chemistry
- "Organic," GMO and other labeling

#### How Do We Express Complicated Green Claims Understandably?



#### WE DONATE 25% World Centric gives 25% of profits to

grassroots social and environmental organizations.







#### **OUR PRODUCT LIFE CYCLE**

begins and ends in the same place. Made from wheat straw, it breaks down during composting in 3-6 months, making nutrient rich soil – starting the process all over again.

#### PRODUCT Testing

Our products meet the strictest standards. Buy ME, PLANT TREES!

FREE OF CHEMICALS SYNTHETIC FABRICS ARSENIC LEAD





#### **Putting It Together**

 How do we work with product development and marketing teams to develop truthful claims that meet regulatory standards in a way that is useful to the audience?

## **Questions?**

